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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SMITHKLINE BEECHAM PLC [GB/GB]; New Horizons Court, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9EP (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BEELEY, Lee, Ismes [GB/GB]; SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, Great Burgh, Yew Tree Bottom Road, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5XQ (GB). SMITH, Richard, Anthony, Godwin [GB/GB]; SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, The Pinnacles, Harlow, Essex CM19 5AD (GB).
- (74) Agent: GIDDINGS, Peter, John; SmithKline Beecham, Corporate Intellectual Property, SB House, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9BD (GB).

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(\$4) Title: METHOD FOR THE DETECTION OF COMPOUNDS THAT MODULATE THE EFFECTS OF THE OBESE PROTEIN

## (57) Abstract

A method for the detection of a compound that mimics, potentiates or inhibits the physiological effect of the ob-protein, which method comprises: (a) for a compound which mimics the physiological effect of the ob-protein, assessing the effect of the compound upon an ob-protein activated signal transducer and activator of transcription (STAT) DNA response element coupled to a reporter gene; or (b) for a compound which potentiates or inhibits the physiological effect of the ob-protein assessing the effect of the compound upon the response provided by ob-protein upon an ob-protein activated STAT DNA response element coupled to a reporter gene; the response element and the reporter being expressed in an ob-protein responsive cell line; a kit of parts adapted for use in such method and a compound when identified by such method.

XC -> P. HINT M. KNIGHT (NARH)
D. PORKING (REONT PROET CEMMS) D. CLOUGH (VI+ MAL)

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